FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**End of Term One – Next Friday, 4th April**
A reminder that Friday 4th April is the last day of Term 1. School will finish at **2.30pm**.

**Whole School Assembly**
A whole school assembly will be held on Monday 31st March at 9.00am in the Gym.

**Congratulations**
Congratulations to our wonderfully talented students for their success in an Art Competition (see separate notices).

**Parent/Teacher/Student Meetings**
These meetings have been conducted over the last few days. They are an important part of your child’s education. If you have not had the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher, please contact them to arrange a meeting.

**Electronic Devices at School**
Parents are reminded that students MUST not bring electronic devices from home and take photos of others students at school. Devices will be confiscated.

**Secondary Students After School at Thomas Mitchell**
We have recently had to **ban** some secondary students from coming into the school grounds after school. Please remind your children that we expect good behaviour and respect when they come into our school grounds.

*John Hurley, Principal*
**STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATES**

Student Information Updates were posted home to all families last week. We ask that you check these details carefully and make any changes necessary. If no changes are required simply initial each page. All Student Information forms are to be returned as soon as possible to the box marked “Confidential Information Updates” at the school office. You are most welcome to also mail your information to us if you wish.

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**2014 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) (FORMERLY KNOWN AS UNIVERSITY OF NSW) COMPETITION – YEARS 2 – 6 AS INDICATED BELOW**

Thomas Mitchell Primary School will be offering the following competitions this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Competition Date</th>
<th>Close of entries &amp; payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 20th May</td>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Wednesday 4th June</td>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Mon 16th – Fri 20th June</td>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th June</td>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 29th July</td>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th August</td>
<td>Friday 28th March</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These competitions will be held from May to August. To enable us to process student’s entry fees and submit their names, entries will close tomorrow, Friday 28th March. Unfortunately because of strict timelines set by the N.S.W University, late entries cannot be accepted.

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**PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE 2014**

The 2014 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is on again and Thomas Mitchell Primary School encourages all students to take part. The Premiers’ Reading Challenge is a great way to get students reading and talking about books. Students can discuss book lists with their friends to find out what they’re reading and what’s worth reading. The Challenge also encourages students to push themselves to read as many books as they can. Entry forms are available from the office.

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**BOOKCLUB**

All items for Issue 1 have been distributed. Thanks to the school community and their generous support, Thomas Mitchell PS received over $600 worth of resources for the Library Resource Centre.

*Josie Morando, Librarian*
Cultural Diversity Week Primary School Art Competition

Recently some of our students had their artwork entered into the Cultural Diversity Week Primary School Art Competition. We were fortunate to have had four students’ artwork selected as finalists for the Year 5 to 6 Section.

These students were Yuvani, Haya, Kayla and Faith; all from Year 6.

The judges were overwhelmed with the amount and calibre of artwork they received; so it was an honour to have our students’ work selected as four of the eight finalists. The artwork was on display in the Atrium area of Federation Square for all to see during last weekend’s Viva Victoria Festival, where the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Matthew Guy MP, announced the winners of each section. The winner of the Year 5 to 6 section was our very own Kayla.

We congratulate Kayla on her win as well as all the girls for being selected as finalists. All finalists’ artwork will now be displayed at the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) at 3 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

*Jenni Entwistle & Rosa Spizzirri, Visual Arts Coordinators*
LIVING IN HARMONY

The world is an interesting place. As much as everything seems so different, we have more similarities than most people take into account. Although there are wars, protests and rebellions around the world, we can come together to create beautiful things.

Like a tree, our country is constantly growing and branching out to include cultural diversity in our everyday lives and the lives of everyone around us.
WE ARE ONE, BUT WE ARE MANY

In my art piece, I am trying to show that Australia is made up of many different countries, religions and cultures; without this, Australia would not be complete. My art piece has different coloured hands waving the Australian flag to show that no matter where we come from, we are proud to call Australia home. I used the song ‘I Am Australian’ because to me, it means that we come from many countries to join together as one nation. I believe that the most amazing thing about our country is how multicultural it is.

Faith, Yr 6TV

AUSTRALIA, MY HOME

Everyone is different in one way or another; different backgrounds, outlooks, opinions and lots more. It doesn’t matter what you look like, where you’ve come from or what you do; it’s all about what you think of yourself. Together, everyone can make a difference and together we can bring peace and harmony.

Everyone deserves to be themselves and follow their own path to experience different things throughout their life; including communicating with others.

I created my picture to represent children from everywhere, developing a friendship to become a group working together to build the tree house. They play together and understand that they are all equal; not in looks but in reality.

The world still has a long way to go but hopefully we will all live in peace very soon.

Haya, Yr 6TV
My artwork inspired me to write a poem about Cultural Diversity.

**JOINED TOGETHER IN PEACE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hand in hand, we rule this land</th>
<th>We come from all over the earth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With courage and friendship</td>
<td>But we all come in peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We never put each other down.</td>
<td>We are many and we hold this nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With the sun we rise with bravery and pride</td>
<td>together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To keep us joined together.</td>
<td>Hand in hand, we rule this land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand in hand, we rule this land</td>
<td>With loyalty and hope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We don’t care if we’re different because;</td>
<td>We can do anything if we work together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand in hand, we rule this land</td>
<td>Hand in hand, we rule this land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children are the future!</td>
<td>Children are the future!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ANZAC Day Badges**

ANZAC Day – Friday 25th April in the first week of term 2. ANZAC Day badges are available at the school from Friday 28th March, and children will be given the opportunity to purchase them each morning. School Captains will be visiting classrooms each school day for children to purchase a badge. Children can also purchase a badge after school from 6CW, Room 14. Proceeds are used in welfare work carried out by the RSL for ex-servicemen, women and their children.

**ANZAC Day Badges will cost $1.00**

*Cherie Wilson, Student Voice Coordinator*
We are concerned at the number of students who have accounts with a number of social media sites such as FACEBOOK, KIK & INSTAGRAM to name but a few.

We have been made aware by parents that their child is being cyber bullied through these sites and they have asked the school to resolve the situation. It is not the school’s responsibility to deal with these matters as they are occurring outside of the school setting as students DO NOT have access to these sites through the school internet.

Our advice to parents regarding this is that it is a police matter and they should contact police to discuss any concerns.

There are age restrictions for these social sites that you should be aware of:

**KIK – Canadian based**

Users are supposed to be age 13 or older. This is because it is not compliant with COPPA (Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act) requirements of specific features for a website designed for children, meaning those 12 and under. Kik itself states, "Children under the age of 13 are prohibited from having a Kik account by the Kik Terms of Service."

Teens between 13 and 18 years old need to have permission from their parent or legal guardian before they create a Kik account and start using Kik Messenger

Your Personal Information may be processed in the country in which it was collected and in other countries, including the United States and/or Canada, where laws regarding processing of Personal Information may be less stringent than the laws in your country.

**INSTAGRAM –**

Instagram is a popular photo and video sharing and social networking site with millions, including tweens. Aside from the stated age requirement of 13, parents must know about privacy, cyberbullying, and content concerns about Instagram. Instagram gives users two options: private or public. Either way, bios are visible to all and can be where predators start looking for underage victims. It is also important to note that Instagram reveals user’s locations.

Think carefully;

**DOES YOUR CHID NEED ACCESS TO THESE SOCIAL MEDIA SITES?**

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**UNIFORM SHOP TRADING DAYS – TERM 1**

**EVERY FRIDAY MORNING 8.30AM TO 9.30AM:**

28TH MARCH, 4TH APRIL– LAST DAY OF TERM 1

**EACH 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAY AFTERNOON 3.00PM – 4.00PM**

1ST APRIL

EFTPOS & CREDIT CARD FACILITY AVAILABLE (MINIMUM TRANSACTION OF $15)
Last Friday was Harmony day. Thank you to everyone who supported this concept of ‘harmony’. It was good to see everyone in orange on the day. The Harmony Day Tree looks great with everyone’s hand representing each person who belongs to the school. It is in front of the Health Centre.

We have raised $843.30 towards San Isidro school Bohol Philippines. Well done everyone!!

We like to thank the following people for their support
Mrs Jenni Entwistle and Mrs Rosa Spizzirri for putting up the harmony day tree
Mrs Cherie Wilson for organising the certificates for everyone
Mrs Linda Loxton for taking photos
Miss Holly Byers for organising the Poster competition
Miss Lauren Proven for assisting with the activities on the day

Wasantha Ramanayake & Renee Bilston

SPORTS NEWS
Well done to all of the students in years 4,5 and 6 for participating in the annual TMPS cross-country. It was so good to see all students trying their very best and pushing all the way to the finish line. Students in years 4-6 who finished in the top ten will now compete in the District cross country carnival next term on May 21st. Good luck to the prep, year 1, 2 and 3 students who will be competing tomorrow morning.

Friday-March 28th
Morning 9.15am
Prep, 1, 2 & 3
Running order:
Grade 3 Girls, Grade 3 Boys, Grade 2 Girls,
Grade 2 Boys, Grade 1 Girls, Grade 1 Boys,
Prep Girls & Prep Boys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House Points Results from Week 8 Term 1:</td>
<td>Perkins</td>
<td>Bradman</td>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total House Point Results for 2014:</td>
<td>Bradman (Red)</td>
<td>290 Points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perkins (Green)</td>
<td>290 Points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freeman (Blue)</td>
<td>240 Points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fraser (Orange)</td>
<td>210 Points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Bonus House Points will be added for cross-country next week, which House will finish first?*

Have a great week!

Olivia Goder, Physical Education Teacher
OSHC OPEN DAY, 28th MARCH, 2014

We will be having an open day on the 28th of March from 8.00 am onwards. There will be lots of free activities, prizes and a chance for you to meet the staff and find out more about our service. Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult if they are not booked in to attend the normal session at before school care.

HOLIDAY CLUB
The holiday program is now open and is filling fast. Book early to avoid missing out.

The OSHC service number is 0402 728 789.
Janice ☺

PARENTS’ CLUB

NEXT MEETING
Please join us for a cuppa and a chat tomorrow, Friday 28th March in the staffroom at 2.30pm. We would love to meet lots of new faces and discuss some new fundraising ideas.

EASTER RAFFLE!!
Remember to get your tickets in for our Easter Raffle. Tickets cost just 50c each or 10 tickets for $4!!! Please be sure to put your name, class & contact phone number on the LEFT HAND SIDE OF EACH TICKET. All tickets sold need to be returned to the school by no later than Tuesday 1st April.

The Easter Raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 2nd April and prizes will be distributed on that day. Extra ticket booklets are also available at the front office.

DONATIONS FOR THE RAFFLE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND CAN BE LEFT AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU!
STUDENT BANKING

Thank you to those who have joined our School Banking recently. If you’re still thinking about signing up, Information Packs are available at the office. Please support this great fundraiser which teaches our children about the importance of saving at the same time!!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Thomas Mitchell Playgroup – Thursday 3rd April, 9.00am – 10.15am

The school runs a Playgroup for 0-5 year olds each Thursday morning in the Prep Rooms near our school gym. Please ask for directions from the school office if you are unsure.

Fun activities are held at playgroup such as playdough, painting, pasting, stories, music, singing and games just to name a few. Please bring a snack for your child and a gold coin donation. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents of children attending the school and for your younger children to meet other children who may be joining the school in the future.

Feel free to bring a friend, or if you know someone with younger children who would like to join this group please let them know. Hope to see you next Thursday.

Jenny Wallace, Playgroup Coordinator

GLEN EAGLES SECONDARY COLLEGE

SEAL Information Evening (Select Entry Accelerated Learning) for year 6 2014 - into year 7 2015 will be held on Tuesday 1st April 2014 from 7.00pm-8.00pm.

SEAL Applications close Tuesday 29th April 2014

Open Night will be held on Monday 28th April from 4.30pm – 6.30pm. Principal’s address will be held at 6.30pm.

No bookings required, families are welcome.

Reema Boulevard, Endeavour Hills
Casey Safety Village

Year 1

On Monday the kids went to Casey Safety Village. It was very interesting! We learned about traffic lights, cars, and rules. We had to catch a fire and call when you see a fire.

On Monday, the weather was very cold. We went to the safety village and learned to drive safely. We had a great time. And the kids had fun. We went on the swings and slide. It was a lot of fun.

This week, we learned about the safety of the village and the importance of safety. I had fun and learned a lot.

Wedding at Eton. It was a beautiful day. We visited the safety and had a great time.
On Tuesday we went to Casey Safety Village and the Rocket Park. We had lots of fun. We learnt about fire safety.

On Monday 17th March we went to Casey Safety Village. I learnt about fire safety. When there is a fire you stop, drop and roll after that we learnt about road safety.

On Tuesday 24th March we went on an adventure. We learnt how to stop, drop and roll. We had a big fire.

On Tuesday 24th March we went on an adventure. We learnt how to stop, drop and roll. We had a big fire.

On Tuesday 18th of March 2014 we went to Casey Safety Village. I learnt about road safety.

On Tuesday 18th of March 2014 we went to Casey Safety Village. I learnt about road safety.

On Tuesday 18th of March 2014 we went to Casey Safety Village. I learnt about road safety.

On Tuesday 18th of March 2014 we went to Casey Safety Village. I learnt about road safety.
# 2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

## Registration Form

Please return this form to your child’s school

I give permission for my child __________________________ of __________________________

to participate in the following 2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject/Paper</th>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Official Sitting Date</th>
<th>Entry fee, incl. GST</th>
<th>Fee enclosed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>3 – 10</td>
<td>20 May 2014</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2 – 12</td>
<td>4 June 2014</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3 – 12</td>
<td>16-20 June 2014*</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>3 – 7</td>
<td>17 June 2014</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2 – 12</td>
<td>29 July 2014</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2 – 12</td>
<td>12 August 2014</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals. However, your school may choose to sit at another time to fit in with other school activities and routines.

* Students may sit Writing anytime in the week beginning Monday 16 June. However, all students in your school should sit on the same day.

Please find enclosed __________________________ total entry fee.

Amount

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Name of Parent/Guardian __________________________

Date __________________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian __________________________
2014 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Dear Parent,

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in 20 countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

ICAS:
- is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2-12; assessments are available in Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing
- gathers performance information through a 30–80 minute supervised in-school test
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student’s performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling
- enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point
- uses fellow students’ results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia
- provides an excellent preparation for national testing
- enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement
- medals are awarded to the top students in each subject in each school year in each state when sufficiently meritorious and the test was sat on the official test date
- achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:
  1. High Distinction to the top 1% of students
  2. Distinction to the next 10% of students
  3. Credit to the next 25% of students
  4. Merit to the next 10% of students
  5. Participation to all other students
- results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely; ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student’s portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities
- entries are administered through the school, so teachers can also access the information

To enrol your child in ICAS, please complete the registration form overleaf and return it, with your entry fees, to school by Friday 28th March 2014

For more information about ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au, contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or send an email to info@eaa.unsw.edu.au

Your child can also prepare for ICAS using Practice Online. Practice Online tests are available for English, Mathematics and Science. Find out more about Practice Online at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online

Yours sincerely

Dr. Sofia Kesidou
Group Executive

John Hurley
Principal

Kathie Arnold
Assistant Principal – ICAS Coordinator

Educational Assessment Australia
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